



STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION
State Revolving Fund Loan Program
L & C Tower, 8th Floor
401 Church Street
Nashville, TN 37243

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

For the Proposed Project of Ripley (Lauderdale County), Tennessee

Loan No. DGA 2009-089

June 12, 2009

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation's (Department) State Revolving Fund Loan Program has conducted a review of the above-referenced project in accordance with the Operating Agreement between the Department and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for implementing the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Loan Program. The Department has determined that this project is eligible for a Categorical Exclusion (CE). Accordingly, the Department is exempting the project from further substantive environmental review requirements under the Department's EPA-approved National Environmental Policy Act-like environmental review process.

The project consists of replacing approximately 3,424 existing water meters within the City's water system with a new remote water meter reading system, new automated reading equipment, billing software, meter programming, and technical assistance. The total estimated project cost is \$1,000,000. An American Recovery Act of 2009 funds and a DWSRF Principal Forgiveness and Loan combination in the amount of \$400,000 and \$600,000 respectively has been requested for this project.

The project is eligible for a CE because undertaking this action:

1. Does not involve serious local or environmental issues;
2. Will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment either individually, cumulatively, over time, or in conjunction with other Federal, State, local, tribal or private action(s);
3. Will not directly or indirectly affect cultural resources, endangered or threatened species and their habitats, or environmentally important natural resource areas, and
4. Is cost-effective and should cause no significant public controversy.

The CE determination shall become effective upon its distribution by the Department and can be revoked at any time adverse information is made available. The documentation to support this CE eligibility determination will be on file with the Department and available for public review upon request. If you wish to comment or to challenge this CE determination, send your written comment(s) to:

Mr. Sam R. Gaddipati, Environmental Manager
State Revolving Fund Loan Program
L & C Tower, 8th Floor
401 Church Street
Nashville, TN 37243

or contact him by telephone at (615) 532-0445 or by e-mail at sam.gaddipati@state.tn.us.